Shown here is the loading station adjacent to the depot.

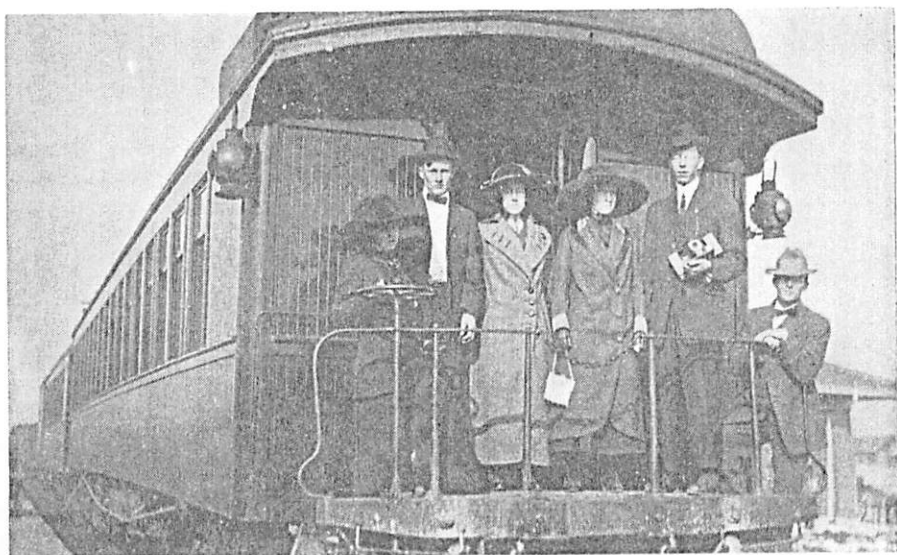
Railroad travel became a reality in Heber on September 29, 1899 when the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad opened a line from Provo through to the Wasatch area.

The line had long been awaited by Heber residents because it would enable them to ship their livestock and farm commodities to outside markets. The feeling of the day was described in an article in the "Wasatch Wave" which stated:

RAILROAD COMPLETED FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1899
Heber Now in Touch with Outside World

E. W. Sullivan appointed station agent at Heber—Schedule very satisfactory—Two trains arrive in and leave Heber each day.

"The Provo Canyon branch of the Rio Grande Western Railroad which connects Heber City with Provo is now completed and ready for business. The length of the road is 25.8 miles. There are seven stations on the line between Provo and Heber. Their names and their distances from Provo are as follows: Smoot, one mile; Crahurst, six miles; Nunns, nine miles; Falls, ten miles; Forks, twelve miles; Wallsburg, eighteen miles; Charleston, twenty-one miles. None of these stations will have an agent. E. W. Sullivan has been appointed agent at Heber. He comes well recommended, having been in the employ of the company for a number of years.

"Elsewhere in this issue will be found the time table showing the arrival and departure of trains. This schedule is very satisfactory indeed. The trains connect at Provo with the fast-continental trains both east and

Pictured on this train leaving the Heber Depot are Laura Clyde, H. Clay Cummings, Nora Clyde, Elthoria Hicken, Storm McDonald and one unidentified man. Railroad travel was a real boon to valley residents.

west without any of those long, tiresome waits. If you have business in Salt Lake you can take the 6:40 A.M. train—arrive in the City 10:00 o'clock; returning you can leave Salt Lake at 5 o'clock P.M. and reach Heber at 8:05. This gives you seven hours in the metropolis, and the whole of the business day in the city which is from 10 o'clock to 5. On the other hand our Salt Lake friends can leave there at 8 A.M., reach Heber at 11:10 A.M. spend 3½ hours in Heber and leave at 2:20, arriving in Salt Lake at 5:35 in the evening."

The community leaders were sufficiently moved by the significance of the occasion that they planned a special railroad holiday on Friday, October 6, 1899 and invited people from all over the state to attend.

The railroad company set up a special train of seven cars which arrived in Heber at 3 p.m., carrying many state dignitaries, including Governor J. T. Hammond, Provo City officials and some 400 persons.

Residents of Heber and Wasatch County along with the Heber Brass Band met the train and its passengers at the depot and proceeded to the court house yard where a special platform had been erected.

Here a special program began with an address of welcome by Abram Hatch, stake president. Mayor Jones of Provo made a brief response and each of the state officials present spoke for a few minutes. These included Gov. Hammond, James Chipman, state treasurer; Morgan Richards, Jr., state auditor; J. J. Thomas, secretary of the state board of equalization and U. S. Senator Reed Smoot. Numerous railroad officials and officers